

## Climate change and Idaho's Treasure Valley air quality: Potential impact on community health

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### Abstract:

The Boise metropolitan area is growing rapidly, with new housing developments, new shopping centers, and new roads. Automobile traffic is increasing and air quality declining as more people move into this region, long called the Treasure Valley for its natural riches. International epidemiological studies have shown a strong correlation between ambient air pollution and respiratory illnesses. Such conditions appear to disproportionately harm children and elderly people who suffer from asthma and other respiratory illnesses, and anyone with chronic cardiovascular disease. Because the Treasure Valley now accounts for about 60 percent of Idaho's population, it is a focus of state concern about air quality, overall environmental quality, and public health. Environmental changes could restrict the region's potential for future growth and development because the Clean Air Act requires that the Treasure Valley meet national air quality standards. Air quality conditions associated with winter inversions have already placed the Valley near noncompliance limits.

**Source:** [http://scholarworks.boisestate.edu/commhealth\\_facpubs/29/](http://scholarworks.boisestate.edu/commhealth_facpubs/29/)  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/242602084\\_Climate\\_Change\\_Idaho's\\_Treasure\\_Valley\\_Air\\_Quality\\_Potential\\_Impact\\_on\\_Community\\_Health](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/242602084_Climate_Change_Idaho's_Treasure_Valley_Air_Quality_Potential_Impact_on_Community_Health)

### Resource Description

#### Exposure : ☐

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Precipitation, Temperature

**Air Pollution:** Interaction with Temperature, Ozone, Particulate Matter

**Temperature:** Fluctuations

#### Geographic Feature: ☐

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Valley

#### Geographic Location: ☐

resource focuses on specific location

United States

#### Health Impact: ☐

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Respiratory Effect

**Respiratory Effect:** Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Other Respiratory Effect

**Respiratory Condition (other) :** emphysema; bronchitis

#### Resource Type: ☐

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

#### Timescale: ☐

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified